Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Sir, the necessity for writing off a portion of the stock of fuel has not arisen primarily because of deficit in stock owing to bad stacking, shortage due to shrinkage etc., being only one and odd tons. The quantity proposed to be written off, except this one and odd tons, was actually in stock at the time of verification but was found to be of such poor quality as to be unfit for locomotive consumption, as it consisted of decayed billets, peeled-off barks, and other useless remnants left in a number of stacks, and represents the remnants not of one year but of a number of years. It is also worthy of mention that in the matter of supply of fuel to the Tramway cheapness is a more important consideration than the quality of the fuel, and accordingly part of the annual supply has to be made up by green fuel of inferior species which are not in demand as timber. When such green pieces become dry, the bark becomes peeled off and some of the billets in the lower layers of the stacks which lie touching the ground may get deteriorated before the whole stock is used up. It is such non-utilisable remnants that have now to be written off and not actual deficit in stock.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What was the total quantity stocked there?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—It is not possible to say the exact quantity because these remnants are not of one year but of a number of years. The annual average for a period of 5 years from 1103 to 1107 comes to about 3700 and odd tons.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Is it a fact that green fuel weighs more than dry fuel? How is it measured?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—The measure is not made by weight, but by taking cubic contents.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Sir, I don't move the cut.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the demand of Rs. 345—2—10 under 11—Tramway by Re. 1.*

Demand put and carried.

3. 14—(1)—Huzur Secretariat—Stationery—Rs. 500.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 500 under 14—(1) Huzur Secretariat—Stationery. The amount is required to pay the Stationery costs of this year. We had a provision of Rs. 1,050 in the current year's budget out of which a sum of Rs. 750 had been adjusted towards the outstanding dues of last year so that with the funds available it is not possible to meet the current year's demand. To make the accounts up-to-date a sum of Rs. 500 is required

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so that the liability may be cleared immediately. I request the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Demand put and carried.

14. 4—(1) Huzur Secretariat—Service Labels—Rs. 400.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 400 under 14—(1) Huzur Secretariat—Service Labels. The allotment for the year was Rs. 1,275 of which the balance now remains is only Rs. 291—4—0. We won't be able to come to the end of this year with this short balance and it is necessary to supplement it by another Rs. 400 at the least. I request that the House be pleased to vote the grant.

Demand put and carried.

5. 14—(8)—General Administration—Economic Depression Loan—Rs. 2,548.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 2,548 under 14 (8)—General Administration—Economic Depression Loan. The request has been necessitated by the appointment of a special loan Officer to look after the distribution of the 5 lakhs of rupees set apart from the Government for the relief of the agriculturists. There is no provision made in the current year's budget. Hence the request.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Sir, I move that.

The demand be reduced by Re. 1.

To urge upon the Government the absolute necessity of accepting as security for the loans from the five lakhs buildings in town areas fetching a fixed rent.

We are extremely thankful to the Government for the various items of relief measures proposed by the Government although the announcement could have been made a little earlier. When we come to the distribution of loans from the 5 lakhs of rupees, it is seen from the notification published by the Government that agricultural lands alone will be accepted as security. It is also further noted there that to the extent of only half the present value of the property will loans be sanctioned. What I want to place before this House is that in the matter of security not only agricultural lands be accepted, but also buildings that fetch a fixed rent. I think from the standpoint of security and the interest that the Government want to secure regarding the loan that is advanced, buildings fetching a rent is as good a security as agricultural lands which gives us an annual yield. Therefore, it will not be improper for the Government to accept such buildings as security, especially in the light of the fact that

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